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As our nation begins to emerge from a historic recession, high unemployment, and economic uncertainty, I believe Congress can implement some common-sense reforms to right our nation's course. First and foremost, we must pay down America's unsustainable debt burden and, just like American families, live within our means. To encourage growth and job creation, we must empower small business owners by reducing regulatory burdens. To this end, I supported the repeal of the extended 1099 tax reporting requirement that was passed as part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (the repeal has since been signed into law).

Additionally, I supported passage of the three free trade agreements with South Korea, Columbia, and Panama, to open more markets to American manufactured products and create upwards of 250,000 new jobs. President Obama signed these free trade agreements into law in late October 2011.

Finally, by modernizing our nation's patent system, Congress has taken steps to encourage entrepreneurship by protecting our nation's innovators and discouraging frivolous lawsuits.

For a complete list of the bills I am sponsoring and cosponsoring, please [click here](#) .

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